

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/447,658

Examiner

Nga B. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

MUKOGAWA, SATOSHI

Art Unit

3628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication filed on June 29, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-41.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is the answer to the Amendment filed on June 29, 2006, which paper has been placed of record in the file.
2. Claims 1-41 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter/Reasons for Allowance

3. Claims **1, 21** and **41** are allowed over the prior arts cited records.

The closets prior arts are:

- 1) Vajk et al. (US 5,265,033) discloses an ATM or POS system having a terminal and process or which are connected to an ATM or POS data communications network. The network also includes a store and forward message switch which stores user messages for remote retrieval and use as an electronic mail system on a data communications network. Messages can be stored or retrieved through standard ATM or POS terminals, through a service bureau, through touch tone telephones or via modems. Messages can be retrieved remotely and sent to a facsimile machine, a remote paging device, computer or the like.
- 2) Semple et al. US 6,085,177) discloses Internet access apparatus that co-exists, and/or operates in conjunction with ATM machines. The ATM machines are modified, or manufactured, to include Web access capability. As such, the ATM systems of the invention typically include (a) a display, (b) an on-line communication sub-system, (c) a user interface, (d) an on-line connection to a communication network, (e) Web access software, (f) one or more data processors capable of handling

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communication between the Internet and the user interface, and of controlling-ATM transactions, including Internet access commands via the user interface, and (g) supporting structure and/or firmware needed to operate an ATM machine.

3) Furuta (HEI 7-319975) discloses the user can input a message (image, voice) for the remittance destination from a camera and/or a voice input section of the remittance-source ATM, an accounting host computer stores the image and/or voice message from the remittance source together with the information about the remittance source, then sending the message stored in the accounting host computer to an ATM in the from of communicating data when the remittance-destination customer has access to the message from the last-named ATM, and finally inputting the receive message from an output device of the last-name ATM.

Therefore, it is clear from the description of Vajk et al., Semple et al., and Furuta, that the prior arts do not considered the possibility of: said first ATM sending said message to said message depository via said public communications network for storage, said message depository, responsive to the reception of the message, storing the message therein and sending depository information, which indicates a site where the message is stored n said message depository, to said first ATM via said public communications network; said first ATM, responsive to the reception of the depository information, sending remittance information and the associated depository information to said management apparatus via said exclusive line, as included in claim 1, said first ATM sending said message to said message depository via said second line for storage, said message depository, responsive to the reception of the message, storing

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the message therein and sending depository information, which indicates a site where the message is stored in said message depository, to said first ATM via said second line; said first ATM, responsive to the reception of the depository information, sending remittance information and the associated depository information to said management apparatus via said first line,, as included in claim 21, sending depository information, which indicates a site wherein the message is stored in the message depository, to the ATM via said public communications network, said ATM, responsive to the reception of the depository information, sending remittance information and the associated depository information to a management apparatus via an exclusive line that is separate from the public communications network, as included in claim 41.

4. Claims (2-20) and (22-40), are allowed because they are dependent claims of the allowable independents 1 and 21 above, in that order.

Conclusion

5. Claims 1-41 are allowable.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Nga B. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-6796. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 9:00AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hyung S. Sough can be reached on (571) 272-6799.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-1113.

7. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

C/o Technology Center 3600

Washington, DC 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306 (for formal communication intended for entry),

or

(571) 273-0325 (for informal or draft communication, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Knox Building, 501 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA, First Floor (Receptionist).



NGA NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

September 15, 2006